

1           1. In a network that includes at least one notification source, at least one  
2 notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates notification delivery, a method  
3 for delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the method  
4 comprising the following:

5           an act of a listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
6 from the notification source in a network format;

7           an act of the listener component translating the notification from the network  
8 format into an internal processing format used by the notification service;

9           an act of determining a category of the notification;

10          an act of performing a set of one or more operations on the notification in its  
11 internal processing format based on the category of the notification; and

12          an act of a delivery component of the notification service receiving the notification  
13 for delivery to the notification sink.

14

15          2. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of a listener  
16 component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
17 in a network format comprises the following:

18           an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
19 from the notification source in the form of an HTTP post request.

20

21          3. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of a listener  
22 component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
23 in a network format comprises the following:

1           an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
2   from the notification source in the form of an XML document.

3  
4           4.    A method in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the act of a listener  
5   component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
6   in a network format comprises the following:

7           an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
8   from the notification source in the form of an XML document within the HTTP post  
9   request.

10  
11          5.    A method in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the act of a listener  
12   component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
13   in a network format comprises the following:

14          an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
15   from the notification source in the form of an XML document within a SOAP request  
16   within an HTTP post request.

17  
18          6.    A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of the listener  
19   component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
20   in a network format comprises the following:

21          an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
22   from a wireless device.

23  
24          7.    A method in accordance with Claim 6, further comprising the following:

1 an act of delivering the notification to a mobile service provider.

2

3 8. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of the listener  
4 component of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification source  
5 comprises the following:

6 an act of the listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
7 from a mobile service provider.

8

9 9. A method in accordance with Claim 8, further comprising the following:

10 an act of delivering the notification to a wireless device.

11

12 10. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of determining a  
13 category of the notification comprises the following:

14 an act of determining that the notification is an instant message.

15

16 11. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of determining a  
17 category of the notification comprises the following:

18 an act of failing to detect an express category of the notification; and

19 an act of determining that the notification is of a default category based on the  
20 failure to detect an express category.

21

22 12. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of determining a  
23 category of the notification comprises the following:

24 an act of determining that the notification is a buddy list related notification.

1  
2       13. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of determining a  
3 category of the notification comprises the following:

4           an act of determining that the notification is a news related notification.

5  
6       14. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of determining a  
7 category of the notification comprises the following:

8           an act of determining that the notification is a mobile-originated notification.

9  
10       15. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
11 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
12 category of the notification comprises the following:

13           an act of determining whether to check that the notification should be muted.

14  
15       16. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
16 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
17 category of the notification comprises the following:

18           an act of accessing a user profile associated with a sender or receiver of the  
19 notification.

20  
21       17. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
22 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
23 category of the notification comprises the following:

24           an act of authenticating.

1  
2        18. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
3 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
4 category of the notification comprises the following:

5            an act of inserting an advertisement into the notification.

6  
7        19. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
8 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
9 category of the notification comprises the following:

10            an act of formatting the notification for the destination device.

11  
12        20. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
13 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
14 category of the notification comprises the following:

15            an act of determining whether the user has exceeded a message limit.

16  
17        21. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the act of performing a set  
18 of one or more operations on the notification in its internal processing format based on the  
19 category of the notification comprises the following:

20            an act of determining the operations to perform based on the category.

21  
22        22. A method in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the act of determining the  
23 operations to perform based on the category comprises the following:

1       an act of referring to an XML document that lists operations to perform for at least  
2       the category of the notification.

3

4       23.      A method in accordance with Claim 21, further comprising the following:  
5       an act of determining the order of operations to perform based on the category.

6

1           24. A computer program product for use in a network that includes at least one  
2 notification source, at least one notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates  
3 notification delivery, the computer program product for implementing a method for  
4 delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the computer  
5 program product comprising one or more computer-readable media have stored thereon the  
6 following:

7 computer-executable instructions for a listener component detecting the receipt of a  
8 notification from the notification source in a network format;

9 computer-executable instructions for translating the notification from the network  
10 format into an internal processing format used by the notification service;

11 computer-executable instructions for determining a category of the notification;  
12 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on  
13 the notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification;  
14 and

15 computer-executable instructions for a delivery component detecting the receiving  
16 the receipt of the notification for delivery to the notification sink.

18 25. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the one  
19 or more computer-readable media are physical storage media.

21 26. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the one  
22 or more computer-readable media further have stored thereon the following:

23 computer-executable instructions for delivering the notification to a wireless  
24 device

1  
2        27. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
3 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
4 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
5 comprise the following:

6                computer-executable instructions for determining whether to check that the  
7 notification should be muted.

8  
9        28. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
10 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
11 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
12 comprise the following:

13                computer-executable instructions for accessing a user profile associated with a  
14 sender or receiver of the notification.

15  
16       29. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
17 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
18 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
19 comprise the following:

20                computer-executable instructions for authenticating.

21  
22       30. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
23 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the

1 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
2 comprise the following:

3 computer-executable instructions for inserting an advertisement into the  
4 notification.

5

6 31. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
7 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
8 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
9 comprise the following:

10 computer-executable instructions for formatting the notification for the destination  
11 device.

12

13 32. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
14 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
15 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
16 comprise the following:

17 computer-executable instructions for determining whether the user has exceeded a  
18 message limit.

19

20 33. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the  
21 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
22 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
23 comprise the following:

1 computer-executable instructions for determining the operations to perform based  
2 on the category.

3

4 34. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 33, wherein the  
5 computer-executable instructions for performing a set of one or more operations on the  
6 notification in its internal processing format based on the category of the notification  
7 further comprise the following:

8 computer-executable instructions for determining the order of operations to  
9 perform based on the category.

10

1       35. In a network that includes at least one notification source, at least one  
2 notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates notification delivery, a method  
3 for delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the method  
4 comprising the following:

5           an act of a listener component of the notification service receiving a notification  
6 from the notification source in a network format;

7           an act of the listener component translating the notification from the network  
8 format into an internal processing format used by the notification service;

9           a step for processing the notification based on a category of the notification; and

10          an act of a delivery component of the notification service receiving the processed  
11 notification for delivery to the notification sink.

12

13       36. A method in accordance with Claim 35, wherein the step for processing the  
14 notification based on a category of the notification comprises the following:

15           an act of determining a category of the notification; and

16           an act of performing a set of one or more operations on the notification in its  
17 internal processing format based on the category of the notification.

18

1       37. In a network that includes at least one notification source, at least one  
2 notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates notification delivery, a method  
3 for delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the method  
4 comprising the following:

5           an act of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification  
6 source in a network format using a listener component of one or more listener components;

7           an act of the listener component translating the notification from the network  
8 format into an internal processing format used by the notification service;

9           an act of the listener component placing the notification in its internal processing  
10 format into a corresponding outgoing queue;

11           an act of a routing component of one or more routing components receiving the  
12 notification from the outgoing queue corresponding to the listener component at a  
13 corresponding incoming queue;

14           an act of the routing component placing the notification in a corresponding  
15 outgoing queue;

16           an act of determining a delivery component to route the notification to of one or  
17 more delivery components; and

18           an act of the delivery component receiving the notification, the delivery component  
19 configured to deliver the notification to the notification sink.

20  
21       38. A method in accordance with Claim 37, wherein the act of the notification  
22 service receiving a notification from the notification source in a network format using a  
23 listener component of one or more listener components comprises the following:

1           an act of the listener component receiving a notification from the notification  
2   source in the form of an HTTP post request.

3

4           39.    A method in accordance with Claim 37, wherein the act of the notification  
5   service receiving a notification from the notification source in a network format using a  
6   listener component of one or more listener components comprises the following:

7           an act of the listener component receiving a notification from the notification  
8   source in the form of an XML document.

9

10          40.    A method in accordance with Claim 37, wherein the act of the notification  
11   service receiving a notification from the notification source in a network format using a  
12   listener component of one or more listener components comprises the following:

13          an act of the listener component receiving a notification from the notification  
14   source in the form of an XML document within the HTTP post request.

15

16          41.    A method in accordance with Claim 37, wherein the act of the notification  
17   service receiving a notification from the notification source in a network format using a  
18   listener component of one or more listener components comprises the following:

19          an act of the listener component receiving a notification from the notification  
20   source in the form of an XML document within a SOAP request within an HTTP post  
21   request.

22

1           42. A computer program product for use in a network that includes at least one  
2 notification source, at least one notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates  
3 notification delivery, the computer program product for implementing a method for  
4 delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the computer  
5 program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having stored thereon  
6 the following:

7           computer-executable instructions for detecting the receipt of a notification from the  
8 notification source in a network format using a listener component of one or more listener  
9 components;

10           computer-executable instructions for the listener component translating the  
11 notification from the network format into an internal processing format used by the  
12 notification service;

13           computer-executable instructions for the listener component placing the  
14 notification in its internal processing format into a corresponding outgoing queue;

15           computer-executable instructions for a routing component of one or more routing  
16 components receiving the notification from the outgoing queue corresponding to the  
17 listener component at a corresponding incoming queue;

18           computer-executable instructions for the routing component placing the notification  
19 in a corresponding outgoing queue;

20           computer-executable instructions for determining a delivery component to route the  
21 notification to of one or more delivery components; and

22           computer-executable instructions for the delivery component receiving the  
23 notification, the delivery component configured to deliver the notification to the  
24 notification sink.

1

2       43. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 42, wherein the one  
3 or more computer-readable media are physical storage media.

4

5

1       44. In a network that includes at least one notification source, at least one  
2 notification sink, and a notification service that facilitates notification delivery, a method  
3 for delivering notifications from a notification source to a notification sink, the method  
4 comprising the following:

5           a step for translating the notification so as to be processed by the notification  
6 service in a scalable fashion;

7           a step for processing the notification in a scalable fashion; and  
8           an act of the delivery component receiving the notification, the delivery component  
9 configured to deliver the notification to the notification sink.

10  
11       45. A method in accordance with Claim 44, wherein the step for translation the  
12 notification so as to be processed by the notification service in a scalable fashion  
13 comprises the following:

14           an act of the notification service receiving a notification from the notification  
15 source in a network format using a listener component of one or more listener components;

16           an act of the listener component translating the notification from the network  
17 format into an internal processing format used by the notification service; and

18           an act of the listener component placing the notification in its internal processing  
19 format into a corresponding outgoing queue.

20  
21       46. A method in accordance with Claim 44, wherein the step for processing the  
22 notification in a scalable fashion comprises the following:

1           an act of a routing component of one or more routing components receiving the  
2   notification from the outgoing queue corresponding to the listener component at a  
3   corresponding incoming queue;  
4           an act of the routing component determining a delivery component to route the  
5   notification to of one or more delivery components; and  
6           an act of the routing component placing the notification in a corresponding  
7   outgoing queue.